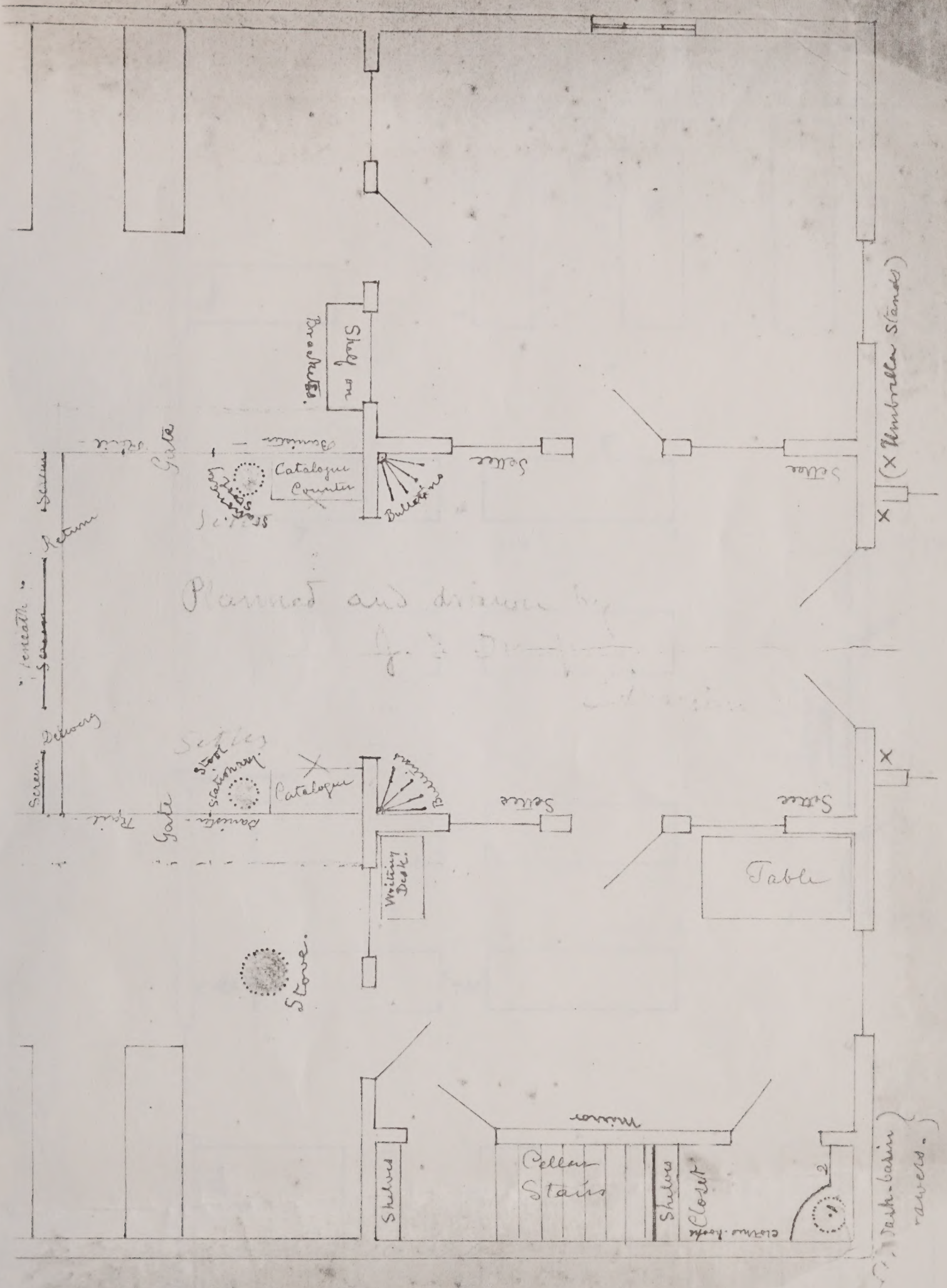



shape as others - to stand by the side of Chimney

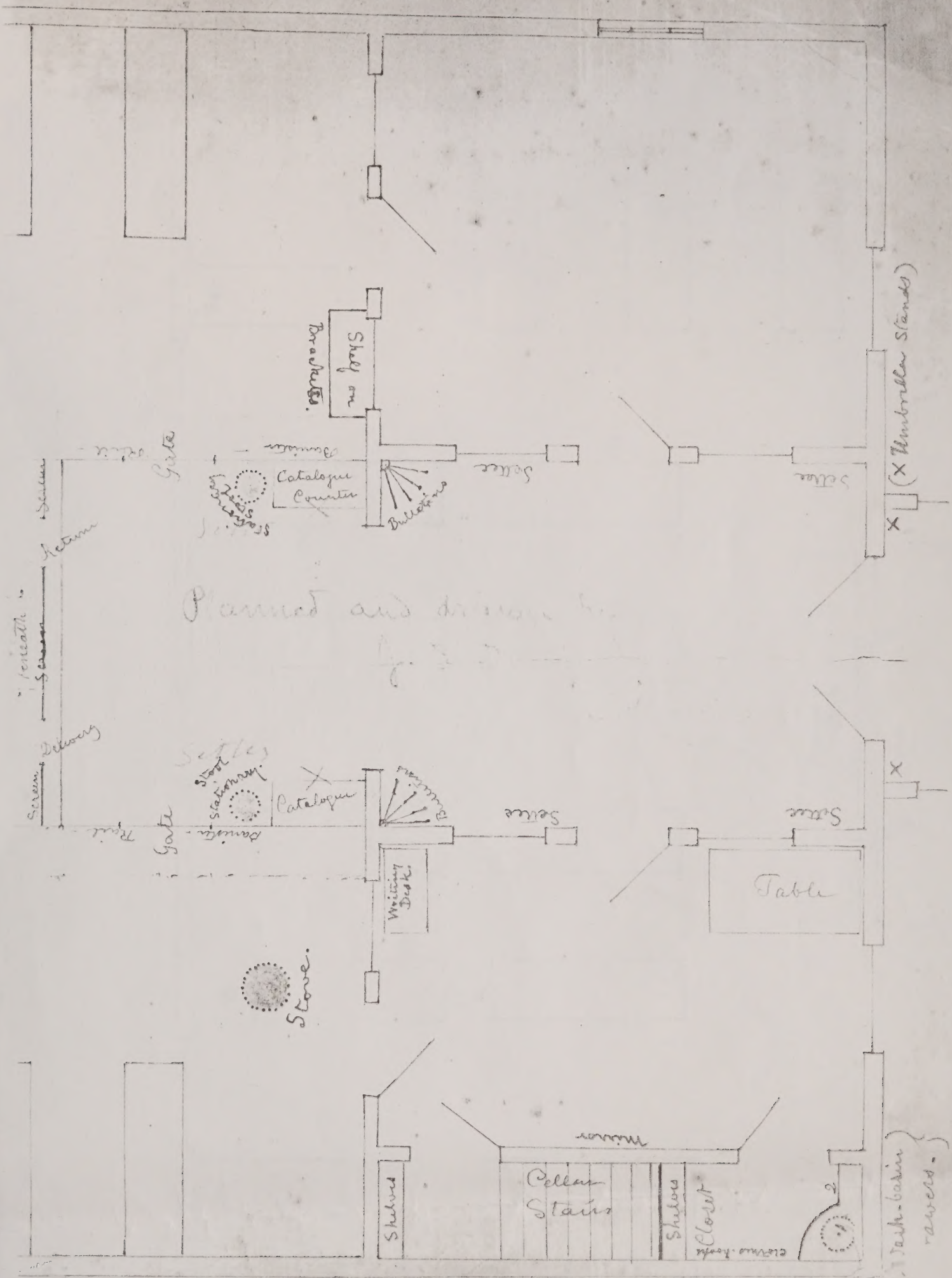




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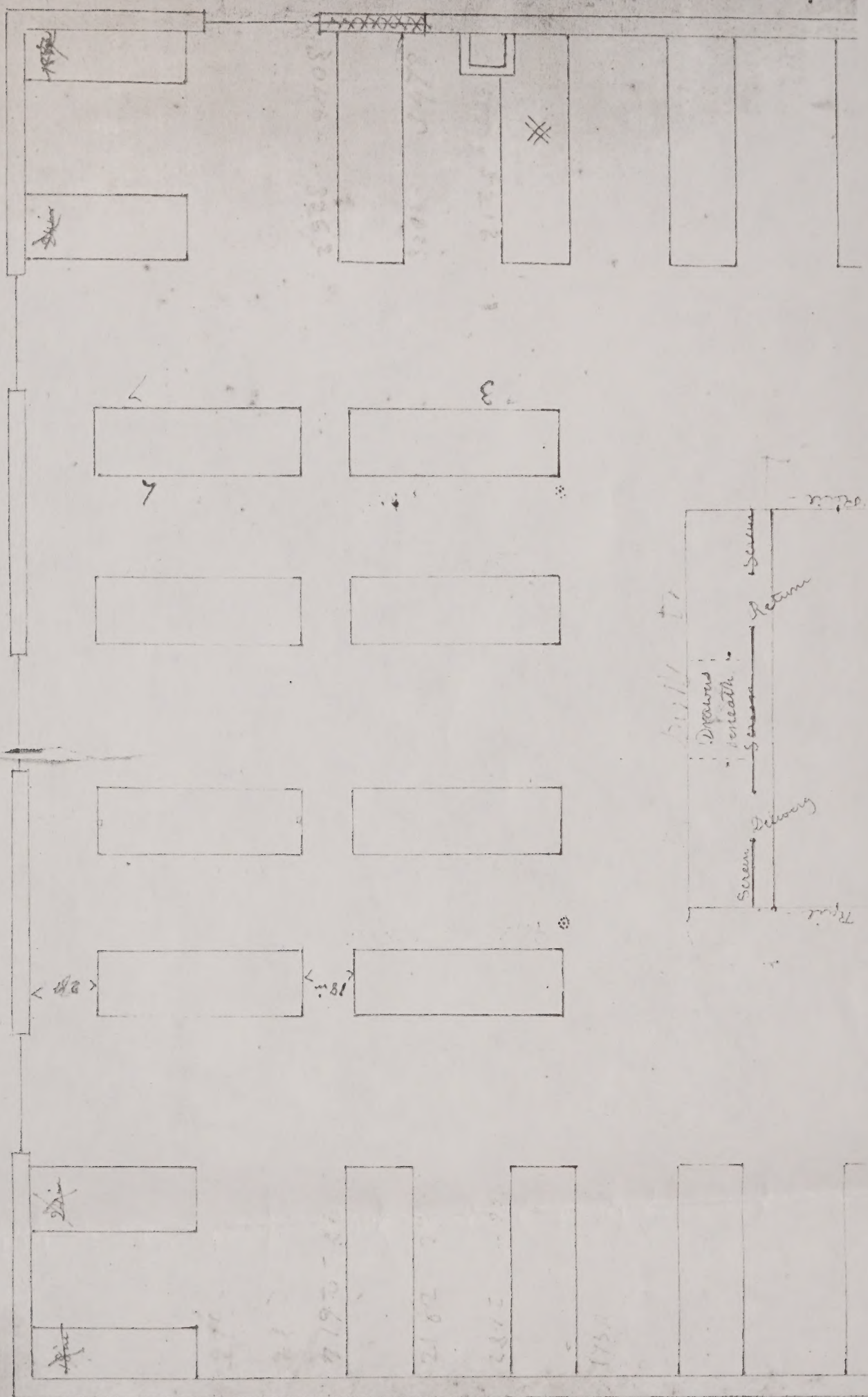
<https://archive.org/details/jsdrapersplanofw00gard>

shape as others - to stand by the side of Chimney



Planned and drawn by
J. J. [illegible]

✕ This case complete in shape as
by measuring the same in the



1/2

J.S.DRAPER'S PLAN OF WAYLAND LIBRARY 1878

by Paul Gardescu, September 1987

There is a floor plan in the Wayland Library noted "Planned and drawn by J.S.Draper Librarian"(1) The plan is not otherwise identified. As Draper was librarian from 1865 to 1885, his office spanned both the old library in the 1841 Townhouse and the newer library in the New Town House built in 1878. At one point it had been conjectured that the plan represented the original library in the 1841 Townhouse (Collins Market) at the point that it occupied the entire first floor (1861).

The size of the window and door openings and the dimensioned book-cases show the plan to be at the scale of 1/4 inch to 1 foot. The plan then represents an overall size of 40 1/2 feet by 49 feet. The 1841 Townhouse has an overall size of 28 by 37 feet. The Draper plan is too big for the older building.

The Draper plan however does conform to the description of the library space in the New Town House given in the Framingham Gazette of October 11, 1878 (2).

"...In the lower department is a fine room set apart for the public library, which is the oldest in the state, containing some 6,000 volumes, the apartment being 30 by 40. It is frescoed, has four windows, and will be lighted by gas and heated by a wood furnace. The books are to be kept in 21 double book-cases of ash. The delivery desk for the librarian fronts toward the general reception room. Adjoining this is a reading room, which will be open evenings."

The Draper plan shows a main space of 32 by 40 with four windows. The plan shows 21 book-cases. There is a central reception (entrance) space with the Delivery and Return desk at the end. This space with its settees, Catalogue and

Bulletins would be the General Reception Room. The room to the right of this would be the Reading Room. The room to the left shows a cellar stair which is mentioned in the Construction Contract change order dated the fifth day of July, 1878 (3).

" Wm B Stinson hereby agrees to build the cellar stairs from Trustee's room, also place closet in the same room, instead of in main Library room and finish said stairs and closet like other parts of the building. ...The said Stimpson also agrees to put in an extra window in rear of building in the first story and of the same size, quality and finish as the other two adjoining windows, also to put in a light (transome) over door opening from Library Hall in to Trustee's room and Reading room, but is to omit two windows, one beside and in the same partition with each of the doors, as an off-set and full compensation for aforesaid outside window, blinds (shutters) and toplights."

The Bond (4) covering the Construction Contract, dated 19 April 1878, includes reference to two iron columns for the support of the second floor. The Draper plan shows these next to the book-cases behind the Delivery and Return desk. The chimney shown on the plan conforms to the location of the northern of the two rear chimnies seen in photographs of the building. The plan entrance flanked by windows also conforms to photographs of the south side of the building and the porch entrance to the Library.

It is clear from these references that the Draper plan is his layout for the library in the 1878 New Town House. At this writing no plans of the building are known to exist.

Notes (1) Original in Wayland Library, copy in Wayland Historical Society.

(2) Microfilm, Framingham Library.

(3),(4) Construction Contract, Change Order and Bond in "1878 Town Hall" folder, Wayland Historical Society.

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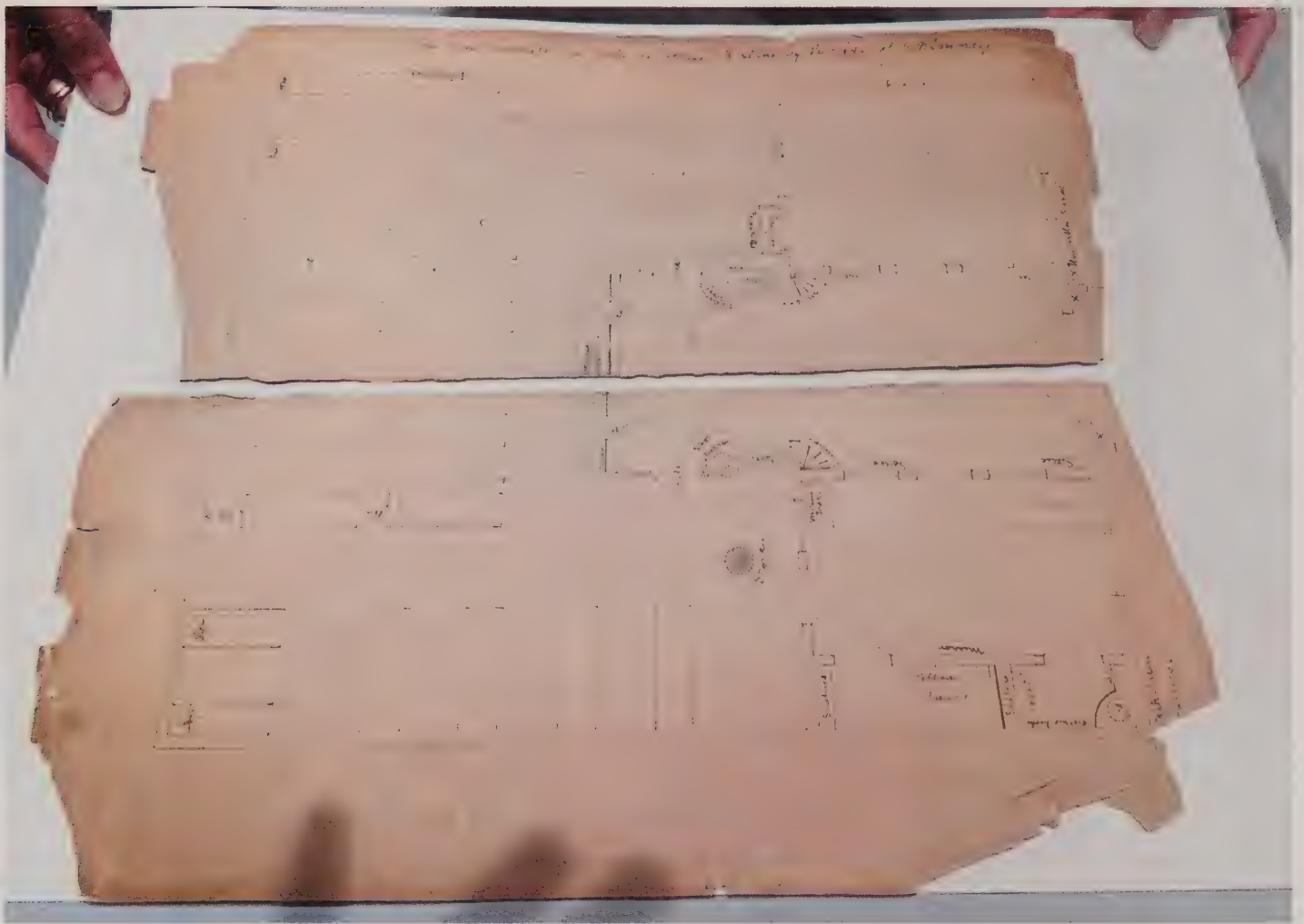
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J. S. Draper's Plan of
Weyland Library 1878
pictures taken at
Northeast Document Conservation
Center. ⁽⁴⁻⁹⁻²¹⁾ Candidate for conservation





